# REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE MARSHALL COUNTY CLERK

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007



# CRIT LUALLEN AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

www.auditor.ky.gov

105 SEA HERO ROAD, SUITE 2 FRANKFORT, KY 40601-5404 TELEPHONE (502) 573-0050 FACSIMILE (502) 573-0067

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### AUDIT EXAMINATION OF THE MARSHALL COUNTY CLERK

### For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

The Auditor of Public Accounts has completed the Marshall County Clerk's audit for the year ended December 31, 2007. Based upon the audit work performed, the financial statement presents fairly in all material respects, the revenues, expenditures, and excess fees in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting.

#### **Financial Condition:**

Excess fees increased by \$126,644 from the prior year, resulting in excess fees of \$340,928 as of December 31, 2007. Revenues increased by \$497,218 from the prior year and expenditures increased by \$370,574.

#### **Debt Obligations:**

As of December 31, 2007, rental lease agreements totaled \$3,918.

#### **Deposits:**

The County Clerk's deposits were insured and collateralized by bank securities.

<u>CONTENTS</u>	PAGE
-----------------	------

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT	1
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS	3
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT	6
REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND	
ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL	
STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS	11



## CRIT LUALLEN AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Honorable Mike Miller, Marshall County Judge/Executive The Honorable Dan Duke, Marshall County Clerk Members of the Marshall County Fiscal Court

#### **Independent Auditor's Report**

We have audited the accompanying statement of revenues, expenditures, and excess fees regulatory basis of the County Clerk of Marshall County, Kentucky, for the year ended December 31, 2007. This financial statement is the responsibility of the County Clerk. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for County Fee Officials issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the County Clerk's office prepares the financial statement on a regulatory basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the laws of Kentucky, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the revenues, expenditures, and excess fees of the County Clerk for the year ended December 31, 2007, in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, we have also issued our report dated June 16, 2008 on our consideration of the County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.



The Honorable Mike Miller, Marshall County Judge/Executive The Honorable Dan Duke, Marshall County Clerk Members of the Marshall County Fiscal Court

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the County Clerk and Fiscal Court of Marshall County, Kentucky, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully submitted,

Crit Luallen

Auditor of Public Accounts

June 16, 2008

# MARSHALL COUNTY DAN DUKE, COUNTY CLERK STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS

#### For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

State Grants		\$ 49,931
State Fees For Services		14,612
Fiscal Court		3,202
Licenses and Taxes:  Motor Vehicle- Licenses and Transfers Usage Tax Tangible Personal Property Tax	\$ 1,272,199 3,855,099 2,775,847	
Clerk Lien Fees Other- Fish and Game Licenses	17,924 3,890	
Marriage Licenses Entertainment Permits	8,177 120	
Deed Transfer Tax Delinquent Tax	106,726 463,006	8,502,988
Fees Collected for Services:		
Recordings- Deeds, Easements, and Contracts Real Estate Mortgages Chattel Mortgages and Financing Statements Powers of Attorney All Other Recordings Charges for Other Services-	37,121 66,450 92,236 1,797 76,131	
Copywork Postage	7,771 3,817	285,323
Other: Miscellaneous		1,366
Interest Earned		11,340
Total Revenues		8,868,762

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

# MARSHALL COUNTY DAN DUKE, COUNTY CLERK

### STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS For The Year Ended December 31,2007

(Continued)

#### **Expenditures**

Payments to State:			
Motor Vehicle-			
Licenses and Transfers	\$	901,784	
Usage Tax	Ψ	3,739,523	
Tangible Personal Property Tax		1,006,918	
Licenses, Taxes, and Fees-		_,,	
Fish and Game Licenses		3,745	
Delinquent Tax		47,416	
Legal Process Tax		36,131	
Affordable Housing Trust		47,064	\$ 5,782,581
Payments to Fiscal Court:			
Tangible Personal Property Tax		271,978	
Delinquent Tax		38,389	
Deed Transfer Tax		101,393	411,760
Payments to Other Districts:			
Tangible Personal Property Tax		1,384,439	
Delinquent Tax		250,425	1,634,864
Payments to Sheriff			8,402
Payments to County Attorney			64,439
Operating Expenditures and Capital Outlay:			
Personnel Services-			
Deputies' Salaries		401,660	
Contracted Services-			
Copier, Postage Meter, Cell Phone		8,153	
Computer Programming		9,035	
Printing and Binding		9,360	
Microfilming Grant Indexing		50,001	
Materials and Supplies-			
Office Supplies		14,327	
Election Supplies		185	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

#### MARSHALL COUNTY

DAN DUKE, COUNTY CLERK

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS  $\,$ 

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

(Continued)

#### Expenditures (Continued)

Operating Expenditures and Capital Outlay: (Continued)

Other Charges-			
Conventions and Travel	\$ 649		
Dues	1,300		
Postage	1,707		
Voting Machine Storage	1,200		
Clerk Official Bond	266		
Bad Debt Expense	852		
Miscellaneous	31,697		
Capital Outlay-			
Office Equipment	3,214	\$ 533,606	
Debt Service:			
Lease Purchases		 3,918	
Total Expenditures			\$ 8,439,570
Net Revenues			429,192
Less: Statutory Maximum			 81,277
Excess Fees			347,915
Less: Expense Allowance		3,600	,
Less: Training Incentive Benefit		 3,387	 6,987
Excess Fees Due County for 2007			340,928
Payments to Fiscal Court - March 3, 2008		340,902	5 . 5,5 <b>2</b> 5
- May 22, 2008		26	 340,928
Balance Due Fiscal Court at Completion of Audit			

### MARSHALL COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

December 31, 2007

#### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### A. Fund Accounting

A fee official uses a fund to report on the results of operations. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

A fee official uses a fund for fees to account for activities for which the government desires periodic determination of the excess of revenues over expenditures to facilitate management control, accountability, and compliance with laws.

#### B. Basis of Accounting

KRS 64.820 directs the fiscal court to collect any amount, including excess fees, due from the County Clerk as determined by the audit. KRS 64.152 requires the County Clerk to settle excess fees with the fiscal court by March 15 each year.

The financial statement has been prepared on a regulatory basis of accounting, which demonstrates compliance with the laws of Kentucky and is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Under this regulatory basis of accounting, revenues and expenditures are generally recognized when cash is received or disbursed with the exception of accrual of the following items (not all-inclusive), at December 31 that may be included in the excess fees calculation:

- Interest receivable
- Collection on accounts due from others for 2007 services
- Reimbursements for 2007 activities
- Payments due other governmental entities for December tax and fee collections and payroll
- Payments due vendors for goods or services provided in 2007

The measurement focus of a fee official is upon excess fees. Remittance of excess fees is due to the County Treasurer in the subsequent year.

#### C. Cash and Investments

At the direction of the fiscal court, KRS 66.480 authorizes the County Clerk's office to invest in the following, including but not limited to, obligations of the United States and of its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state, and certificates of deposit issued by or other interest-bearing accounts of any bank or savings and loan institution which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or which are collateralized, to the extent uninsured, by any obligation permitted by KRS 41.240(4).

MARSHALL COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT December 31, 2007 (Continued)

#### Note 2. Employee Retirement System

The county officials and employees have elected to participate in the County Employees Retirement System (CERS), pursuant to KRS 78.530 administered by the Board of Trustees of the Kentucky Retirement Systems. This is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer, defined benefit pension plan that covers all eligible full-time employees and provides for retirement, disability, and death benefits to plan members.

Benefit contributions and provisions are established by statute. Nonhazardous covered employees are required to contribute 5.0 percent of their salary to the plan. The county's contribution rate for nonhazardous employees was 13.19 percent for the first six months and 16.17 percent for the last six months of the year.

Benefits fully vest on reaching five years of service for nonhazardous employees. Aspects of benefits for nonhazardous employees include retirement after 27 years of service or age 65.

Historical trend information pertaining to CERS' progress in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due is presented in the Kentucky Retirement Systems' annual financial report which is a matter of public record. This report may be obtained by writing the Kentucky Retirement Systems, 1260 Louisville Road, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-6124, or by telephone at (502) 564-4646.

#### Note 3. Deposits

The County Clerk maintained deposits of public funds with depository institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as required by KRS 66.480(1)(d). According to KRS 41.240(4), the depository institution should pledge or provide sufficient collateral which, together with FDIC insurance, equals or exceeds the amount of public funds on deposit at all times. In order to be valid against the FDIC in the event of failure or insolvency of the depository institution, this pledge or provision of collateral should be evidenced by an agreement between the County Clerk and the depository institution, signed by both parties, that is (a) in writing, (b) approved by the board of directors of the depository institution or its loan committee, which approval must be reflected in the minutes of the board or committee, and (c) an official record of the depository institution.

#### Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a depository institution failure, the County Clerk's deposits may not be returned. The County Clerk does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk but rather follows the requirements of KRS 41.240(4). As of December 31, 2007, all deposits were covered by FDIC insurance or a properly executed collateral security agreement.

MARSHALL COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT December 31, 2007 (Continued)

#### Note 4. Grant

The County Clerk received a local records microfilming grant from the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives in the amount of \$49,931. During the year, interest of \$96 was received and funds of \$49,931 were expended. As of December 31, 2007 the unexpended grant balance was \$0.

#### Note 5. Lease

The office of the County Clerk was committed to a rental lease agreement with Great America Leasing for a postal meter. The agreement requires monthly rental payments of \$301 for 24 months to be completed on January 5, 2009. As of December 31, 2007, the outstanding balance of the agreement was \$3,918.

REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS



The Honorable Mike Miller, Marshall County Judge/Executive The Honorable Dan Duke, Marshall County Clerk Members of the Marshall County Fiscal Court

> Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards

We have audited the statement of revenues, expenditures, and excess fees - regulatory basis of the Marshall County Clerk for the year ended December 31, 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated June 16, 2008. The County Clerk's financial statement is prepared in accordance with a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

#### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Marshall County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with the regulatory basis of accounting such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statement that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statement will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.



Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards (Continued)

#### **Compliance And Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Marshall County Clerk's financial statement for the year ended December 31, 2007, is free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Marshall County Fiscal Court, and the Department for Local Government and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully submitted,

Crit Luallen

**Auditor of Public Accounts** 

June 16, 2008